THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Food supplied in the trains and at Railway Stations in Kerala is neither poor in quality nor heavy in price. Railways exercise due care to ensure that the food supplied to the travelling public is wholesome, hygienic, and nutritious and sold at reasonable prices in accordance with the tariff fixed by the Railways.

Train accident on Shornur-Mangalapuram Rail Line

7223. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that accident on Shornur-Mangalapuram line have increased during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Railways lines are very old and proper replacement and repair is not done regularly;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that these delays are causing accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir. The number of train accidents on the Shoranur-Mangalore section during the last three years is as under:—

1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
2	2	1

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Under-utilisation of Ernakulam-Kayakulam rail line

7224. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ernakulam-Kayakulam via Alleppey line is not utilised even upto 50%; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and whether more trains would be introduced via Alleppey?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Ernakulam-Kayakulam section via Alleppey railway line is being utilised to the extent of 78% of its chartered capacity.

An Inter-city Express train between Ernakulam and Trivandrum via Alleppey has been recently introduced and a Weekly Express train between Bangalore and Quilon, also via Alleppey would be introduced during 1995-96.

Non-availability of reservations at Ernakulam

7225. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reservations in certain trains in Kerala is not done at Ernakulam; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Computerised passenger reservation facility exists at Ernakulam Junction for seeking reserved accommodation by all trains which are available on the Southern Railway system including all trains originating in or passing through stations in Kerala.

Frequency of Buses on Route No. 378

7226. SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DTC bus route No. 378 from Central Secretariat to Mayur Vihar Phase-III is being run at very long intervals, causing a great deal of inconvenience to the passengers;

(b) whether the Red Line buses on the aforesaid route are allowed to start from Central Secretariat;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware that the passengers have to wait for the bus route No. 378 at Central Secretariat for long;

(e) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take to remove the inconvenience; and

(f) whether bus route No. 384 follows the same route?